

## Journal

## Office of Legislative Counsel

16 April 1956 - Monday

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1. Attended open hearings of the Symington Subcommittee, Gen. Bedell Smith and Gen. Bradley were the witnesses. Both witnesses conceded that the Soviet Union had made great strides in air power and other military fields, and that we must assume that they have sufficient technical and scientific competence, manpower and other resources to continue to advance. They refused, however, to be drawn into a statement through leading questions that the answer to the problem, insofar as the United States was concerned, was an "all out" effort in aircraft and missile production. Both witnesses pointed out that we must preserve balanced military forces and a sound economy, and that they were not competent, as a result of having been out of the Government for a considerable period, to state any personal conclusions as to the adequacy of our present defense effort. General Bradley appeared voluntarily. General Smith had responded to a subpoena.

Chairman Symington started the meeting by stating his intention to make as much information as possible public on the subject matters covered during the committee's hearings, during both open and executive sessions. He indicated that Executive agencies would be asked to designate classification of their testimony, but indicated further that "only a clear showing of damage to the national defense" would be adequate justification, in the eyes of the Committee, for classification of facts and figures given during the hearings.

2. The DCI was briefed this afternoon for his appearance before the House Appropriations Committee. It was agreed that he would concentrate on a statement of the reasons why CIA requires a large number of personnel, particularly at headquarters. Col. White raised the question of handling a recent statement of the Bureau of the Budget that they would prefer we withhold the appropriations request for our building until next January. The Director decided, subject to clearance with the Bureau of the Budget (which was obtained later) that he would indicate to the Committee the status of planning on the building, and leave the door open for a submission of our appropriations request this session, without a positive indication that it would be forthcoming.

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